

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Chillicothe VA Medical Center



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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Chillicothe VA Medical Center

2021 Annual Report



I am pleased to present to you our Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Annual Report. The team at the Chillicothe VA Medical Center is dedicated to fulfilling our mission "To honor our Veterans' service and sacrifices by providing exceptional care."

Veterans can expect to receive high quality care when they come to any of the seven locations in our 17- county service area throughout Southeastern Ohio. This is evident by scores received through a survey provided to Veterans after their appointment. During FY21, Chillicothe VA ended the year with a 92.6% trust score, exceeding the national average by 2%. We also ended the year with a 95.5% score on the question Veterans were asked in regard to their level of comfort and respect. This score is also 2% above the national average.

Over the past year, we modified operations to continue to safely meet the needs of our Veterans during the ongoing pandemic.

We have also put more focus on our virtual care options, offering Veterans a variety of at-home resources. Our Veterans have access to secure messaging with My HealtheVet; telephone or video appointments; a new VA Chat App; prescription refills and text message reminders for appointments and wellness information. Our facility ranks first in the region for utilization of Home Telehealth care provided to Veterans in the comfort of their own home. In addition to Primary Care and Mental Health Services, our Addiction Recovery Service programs and other select specialty care have been modified to include virtual treatment to reach Veterans using their personal device (laptop, iPad, smart phone, or telephone). We are also working with other VA facilities to expand access to specialty services using virtual modalities.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Veterans for choosing us as your healthcare provider. I would also like to thank our employees, our stakeholders and community partners for your support and dedication to Veterans. You make it possible for us to fulfill our nation's promise in serving those who have borne the battle!

Respectfully,
Dr. Kathy Berger
Medical Center Director/CEO

A message from our Director

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Serving those who served us



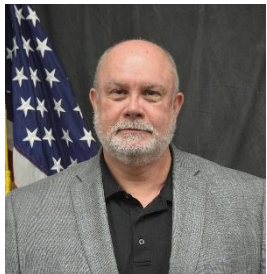
Dr. Kathy W. Berger Medical Center Director

Dr. Kathy W. Berger was appointed as the Chillicothe VA Medical Center Director on March 17, 2019. Dr. Berger previously served as the Director for the Montana Health Care System. Dr. Berger holds Associates and bachelor's degrees from Northern Kentucky University, a master's in healthcare administration from California College of Health Sciences and a Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Berger served in the Air Force for nine years, stationed at three bases stateside and was the Officer in Charge while on deployment to Saudi Arabia. Upon leaving the Air Force, Dr. Berger joined the VA at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and is a 2012 graduate of Leadership VA (LVA).



Kathryn Hils Acting Associate Director for Patient Care Services

Kathryn Hils was appointed the Acting Associate Director for Patient Care Services (ADPCS) at the Chillicothe VA Medical Center on October 18, 2021. Ms. Hils holds an MSN with emphasis on Nursing Leadership and Management, a BSN from Wright State University degree, and ADN from Northern Kentucky University. Ms. Hils most recently served as the Chief Nurse, Mental Health for Nursing Service at the Dayton VA Medical Center. She has been actively involved with Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) and serves as Member, EBP Leadership Team and Chair, EBP Outcomes Committee.



Robert Cagle Associate Medical Center Director

Mr. Robert Cagle was appointed Associate Medical Center Director at the Chillicothe VA Medical Center on July 4, 2021. He previously served as the Senior Strategic Business Partner in Human Resources Management Service at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. Mr. Cagle graduated from McKendree University with a master's degree emphasizing in Human Resources and graduated with a master's degree in Human Resources Management from Webster University. Prior to joining the VA, Mr. Cagle spent 34 years working in the Department of Defense as both a soldier and civilian employee.



Dr. Lora Cox-Vance Chief of Staff

Lora Cox-Vance, MD, CMD, obtained her Bachelor of Science and Medical Degree at The Ohio State University in Columbus, OH. She completed residency in family medicine and fellowships in geriatric medicine and faculty development at the University of Pittsburgh. She was a Clinical Professor at the University of Pittsburgh from 2009 to 2015 and served as Geriatric Fellowship Program Director.

Dr. Cox-Vance joined the Chillicothe VA in 2015 and is a 2018 graduate of the VHA Healthcare Leadership and Development Program. Dr. Cox-Vance became the Deputy Chief of Staff in 2020 and Chief of Staff in 2021.



ABOUT US

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Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
740.773.1141
chillicothe.va.gov

 facebook.com/ChillicotheVAMC

 [@chillicothevamc](https://twitter.com/chillicothevamc)

 [@chillicotheVAMC](https://www.instagram.com/chillicotheVAMC)

When entering the campus of the Chillicothe VA Medical Center, the first thing one notices is its natural beauty. Situated on 308 acres of what was once Camp Sherman, a World War I Training Camp, is a system of care for our Nation's Veterans.

The Chillicothe VA Medical Center, a Level 2 complexity facility, provides acute and primary medical services, acute and chronic mental health services and a wide range of geriatrics and long-term care services to the Veterans residing primarily in southeastern and south-central Ohio. The medical center also serves as a mental health referral center for medical centers in VISN 10 and parts of West Virginia. Chillicothe is a 295-bed facility with 28 psychiatric beds, 162 community living center beds and 78 domiciliary beds.

Primary care services are provided through eight Primary Care Teams located on the main campus and six Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) serving Veterans throughout the Athens, Cambridge, Lancaster, Marietta, Portsmouth and Wilmington, Ohio areas.

The Chillicothe VA Medical Center offers specialty services in cardiology, neurology, gastroenterology, pulmonology, sleep medicine and substance abuse. We have dynamic Spinal Cord Injury and Traumatic Brain Injury programs and offer physical medicine, pain management, chiropractic services and acupuncture to assist with pain issues. Tele-medicine allows Veterans access to specialty physicians from other VA facilities increasing access to care.

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Fiscal Year 2021 Budget



Facility Budget
\$303,138,948.24

**Operating Budget for Medical
Care in the Community**
\$93,134,174.62



3rd Party Revenue
\$3,824.085



FACILITY STATISTICS

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Unique Veterans | 22,185 |
| Female Veterans | 2,278 |
| Outpatient Visits | 293,692 |
| Outpatient Encounters | 390,802 |
| Admissions | 1,381 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Inpatient/Operating Beds | 295 |
| Average Daily Census | 158 |

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Employees | 1,437 |
| Veteran Employees | 390 |



VIRTUAL HEALTH CARE
Your care at home.

FY21 CONNECTED CARE REPORT

| MEASURE | NUMBER OF VETERANS RECEIVING SERVICES | % OF VETERANS RECEIVING SERVICES |
|--|--|---|
| Telehealth | 8,152 | 39.82% |
| Home Telehealth | 1,172 | 5.72% |
| Clinical Video Telehealth | 6,069 | 9.52% |
| Store and Forward Telehealth | 2,571 | 32.60% |
| Video Telehealth to Off Site Patients | 5,874 | 28.69% |

*The Chillicothe VA is nationally ranked #1 in Home Telehealth appointments
In Veterans Health Administration (VHA).*



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CONNECTED CARE

VA is recognized as a world leader in the development and use of new technologies to revolutionize and expand health care beyond the traditional office visit. Telehealth, VA-Video Connect, My HealtheVet, VA Apps and VA Text are just a few of the tools VA uses to ensure Veteran patients get the right care, at the right time, delivered in the most convenient setting. Veterans can use virtual health care to connect with their providers via video, refill VA prescriptions, manage appointments, message healthcare providers, and access their health records from the comfort of their own home or via a mobile device.



Because VA is the largest integrated healthcare system in the U.S., Veterans can receive care at their local outpatient clinic from specialists located at different facilities throughout the VA network or at their main medical center. The Chillicothe VA offers 20 different telehealth programs across its catchment area, saving Veterans from making unnecessary trips.

A few of the telehealth services currently offered by the Chillicothe VA include: Audiology, Pain Management, Pulmonary, Tele Retinal Imaging, Tele Dermatology Imaging, Sleep, Urology, Physical Therapy, Smoking Cessation, Mental Health, Suboxone, Primary Care, and many more.



Did you know VA has an App Store? Visit mobile.va.gov/Appstore to gain access to dozens of apps, including those created specifically for Veterans and their healthcare professionals. The apps offer safe and secure mobile access to patient data and provide more opportunities for Veterans to be active participants in their health care visit today!

CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (CDCE)

HOW CAN I HELP?

The Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE), formerly known as Voluntary Service, continually adapted to COVID-19 rules and regulations throughout the year, seeking new and innovative ways to support our Veterans. CDCE partnered with Nutrition and Food Service on various events and activities such as birthday parties, special meals and pizza parties on the Community Living Centers. Virtual Student Volunteers decorated birthday boxes for Veterans that Nutrition and Food Service staff then distributed to Veterans in celebration of their special day. Over 100 food pantry bags were distributed to Veterans in need. The clothing room issued clothes to over 400 Veterans including both inpatients and outpatients.

During FY21, CDCE processed in excess of 90 donations resulting in \$111,525.26 monetary donations and \$1,844,632.61 non-monetary donations.

Monetary donations are used for the comfort and welfare of Veteran Patients. Additionally, these donations support rehabilitation program outings, participation in national adaptive sporting events, diversional activities and emergency needs such as:

National Veterans Wheelchair Games Winter Sports Clinic
National Veterans TEE Tournament
Buckeye PVA Games
Therapy and Reintegration Lunches & Outings
National Salute
Wedding Vow Renewal Ceremony
Sporting Event Attendance

In-kind, or non-monetary, donations help to make our Veteran patients' time more enjoyable. These items can be used for a specific event, project, or benefit the routine comfort and activities carts.

Books & Magazines
Activity Books
Playing Cards & Games
Refreshments
Telephone Cards
Sewing Kits
Denture Supplies
Radios
DVDs & DVD Players
Socks & Non-Skid Slippers

Non-Perishable Food Items
Clothing & Undergarments (Men's & Women's)
Model Cars
Raincoats
Umbrellas
Nail Clippers



CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

If interested, donations can be made to the Chillicothe VA through the secure E-Donate site (<https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/48003168/>). This is a U.S. Department of Treasury Pay.gov site with a minimum of \$5 online donation. No additional fees are added.

For the safety of our Veteran patients, we cannot accept used clothing (or any used items), home cooked food, alcohol-based items, over the counter medications, medical equipment, etc.

Questions can be directed to CDCE, 740-773-1141, extension 17240, or visit our website.

WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?



"I love going to the facility in Chillicothe, Ohio. It's just a short drive and I always have such a pleasant experience there! The staff are great and always smiling. I would highly recommend this facility to any Veteran seeking care!"

"I was very happy the VA allowed my wife to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time I was to receive it, with just 24-hour notice. Honestly, that was the fastest I have ever seen the VA do something. It was great!"

"It was easy to get an appointment and I got in quickly. Everybody at Chillicothe VA always treats all of us Veterans with the utmost of respect. I absolutely trust the Chillicothe VA for my health care needs."

"The VA health care and personnel have exceeded my expectations."

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SERVICES WE OFFER

INPATIENT/ RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

COMPASS Center (Acute Mental Health)
Domiciliary Residential Rehabilitation
Treatment Program (DRRTP)
Rehabilitation and Extended Care
(Community Living Centers)

ADDICTION RECOVERY SERVICES

Substance Abuse Treatment Program
(SATP):
 Intensive Outpatient Program
 Residential Program Track
Aftercare Treatment
Outpatient Treatment Program
Medication Assisted Therapy Clinic (MAT)
Outpatient Care

EXERCISE AND INTEGRATED THERAPIES

Aqua-Therapy
Auricular Acupuncture
Aromatherapy
Acupuncture
Battlefield Acupuncture
Electro-Acupuncture
Biofeedback
Be Active and Move (BAM)
Chiropractic
Cupping
Dry Needling
Drumming
Gymnasium and Swimming Pool
Healthy Teaching Kitchen
Kinesiotherapy

Mantra
Medical Massage
MOVE! Weight Management Program
Occupational Therapy
Physical and Recreational Therapy
Tai-Chi
Yoga

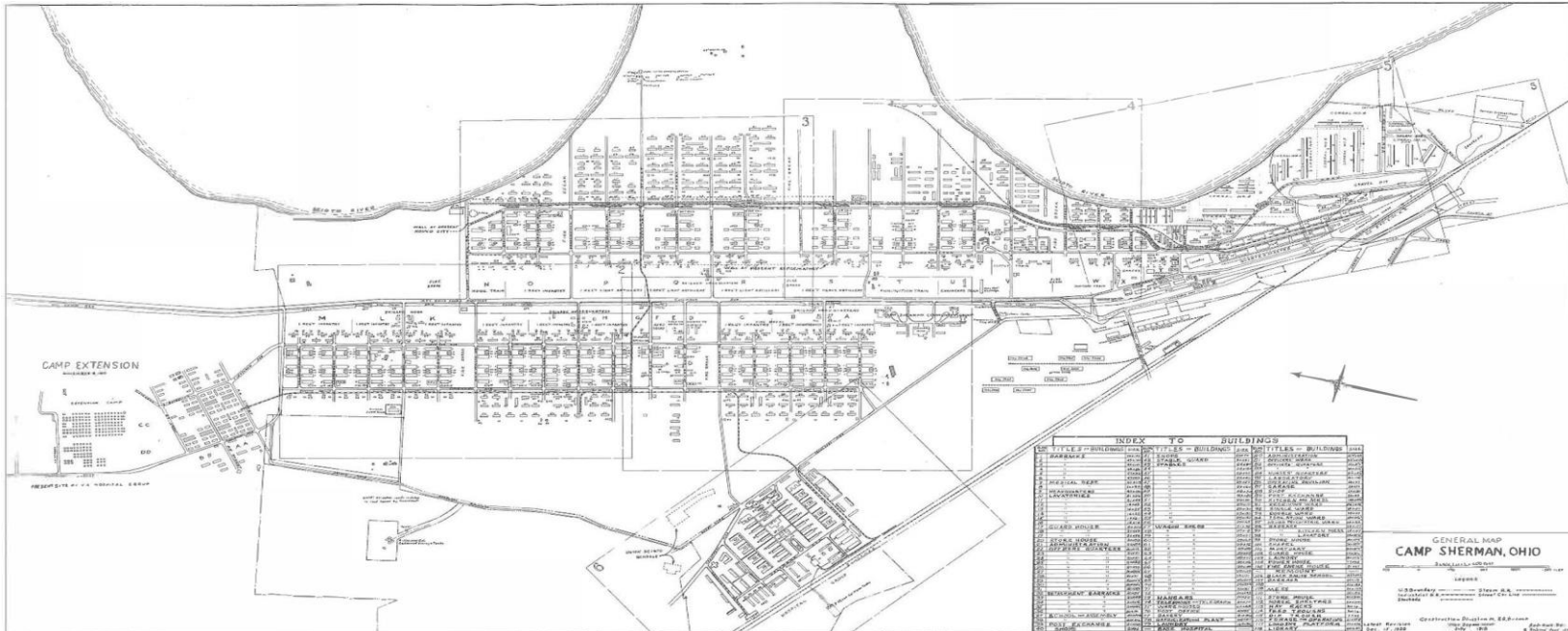
OUTPATIENT SERVICES/PROGRAMS

Mental Health Clinic
Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
Neuropathology
Pain Psychology - Pain Clinic
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Clinical Team (PCT)
Primary Care - Mental Health
Integration (PCMHI)
Health Care for Homeless Veterans
(HCHV)
Home Telehealth (HT)
Audiology Speech
Pathology
 General X-Ray
 Fluoroscopy
 Bone Densitometry (DEXA)
 Computed Tomography (CT)
 Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
 Ultrasound
 Nuclear Medicine Respiratory
 Therapy
VHA Vocational Rehabilitation
Program
Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)
Caregiver Support Program (CSP)
Pharmacy Services
Primary Care
Women's Health Services
Urgent Care

Lab
Radiology
Home Based Primary Care
Connected Care
Dental
Podiatry
Optometry
Cardiology
Dermatology
Orthopedics
Infusion Clinic
Gastroenterology
Pulmonology
Caregiver Support Program
Spinal Cord Injury Clinic
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Kinesiotherapy
Aqua Therapy
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation
(TMS)

COMMUNITY AND REINTEGRATION SERVICES

Housing and Urban Development/ VA
Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)
Community and Residential Care
Program (CRC)
Mental Health Intensive Care
Management Program (MHICM)
Vocational Rehabilitation
Veterans Transition and Empowerment
Center (VTEC)
Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO)
Peer Support
Post-9/11 Military2VA (M2VA)
Case Management Program



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

- Planning is underway to relocate and expand the Wilmington Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Fiscal Year 22.
- The Chillicothe VA began the first round of projects involving the demolition of vacant buildings. Buildings 10 and 11 have been demolished and other similar buildings will soon follow.
- A project to renovate the Acute Mental Health unit to create a state-of-the-art healing environment is nearing completion. Activation is currently planned for Spring of 2022.
- The facility is currently preparing for various Fiscal Year 22 and 23 projects involving infrastructure upgrades across the campus including Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM).



ACCREDITATION UPDATE



The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducted their triennial Comprehensive Healthcare Inspection Program (CHIP) Review in 2020. This was our first virtual review with the OIG. They covered Leadership and Organization all Risks (LOR); Quality, Safety, and Value (QSV); Medical Staff Privileging; Medication Management: Long-Term Opioid Therapy for Pain; Mental Health: Suicide Prevention Program; Care Coordination: Life Sustaining Treatment Decisions; High Risk Processes: Reusable Medical Equipment (RME); and Women's Health: Comprehensive Care.

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, or CARF, also conducted a review of our Behavioral Health programs in 2020. Programs reviewed include Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs (MR RTP), Therapeutic and Supported Employment Services (TSES), Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV), VA Supportive Housing (VASH), the Substance Abuse Treatment Program (SATP), the Veterans Transition and Empowerment Center (VTEC), and Mental Health Intensive Case Management (MHICM). The Chillicothe VA was awarded its three-year accreditation through 2023.

We had our Annual Workplace Evaluation (AWE) in early 2020. The evaluation consisted of a walk-through of the Chillicothe VA Medical Center clinical, engineering, and administrative areas as well as the Veterans Canteen Service and the Athens Community Based Outpatient Clinic. The surveyors also conducted a review of policies and had discussions with Safety/Industrial Hygiene personnel, program managers, top management officials, supervisors, employees, and employee representatives.

The Joint Commission conducted their initial survey of the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Service (P&LMS) in June of 2021. The survey included observation of the department to ensure a safe, functional environment; observation of processes such as, quality control procedures, handling of reagents and solutions, and managing tissue procurement; and a review of staff competency and education. P&LMS was awarded a two-year accreditation through 2023. The Joint Commission is expected to visit the Chillicothe VA Medical Center in September 2022.

The Long-Term Care Institute (LTCI) conducted their annual survey virtually in November. Surveyors complimented our COVID-19 prevention process for the Community Living Center (CLC) and the use of the sky lift allowing residents unable to ambulate alone to walk around the neighborhood.



VA OUTPATIENT CLINICS

Primary Care
Mental Health - Psychiatry and Psychology
Social Work
Clinical Pharmacy
Optometry
Lab
Nutrition
Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST)
MOVE! Weight Management Program
Be Active and Move (BAM)
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Groups
Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)
Housing and Urban Development/
Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)

ATHENS VA CLINIC



Unique Patients 2,000
Outpatient Encounters 14,632

LANCASTER VA CLINIC



Unique patients 3,028
Outpatient Encounters 18,409

Primary Care
Mental Health - Psychiatry and Psychology
Social Work
Clinical Pharmacy
Optometry Podiatry
Lab
Nutrition
Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST)
MOVE Group
Be Active and Move (BAM)
Substance Abuse Treatment Program
(SATP) Aftercare
Neurology
Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)
Housing and Urban Development/
Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)

VA OUTPATIENT CLINICS (cont.)

PORTSMOUTH VA CLINIC



Unique Patients 2,139
Outpatient Encounters 15,279

Primary Care
Mental Health - Psychiatry and Psychology
Social Work
Clinical Pharmacy
Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST)
Lab
Nutrition
Be Active and Move (BAM)
MOVE! Weight Management Program
Housing and Urban Development/
Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)

The Portsmouth VA Clinic relocated to its current, newly renovated, facility in March 2020.

CAMBRIDGE VA CLINIC



Unique Patients 1,628
Outpatient Encounters 10,922

Primary Care
Mental Health - Psychiatry and Psychology
Social Work
Clinical Pharmacy
Optometry Podiatry
Lab
Nutrition
Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST)
MOVE! Weight Management Program
Be Active and Move (BAM)
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Groups
Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)
Housing and Urban Development/
Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)

The Cambridge VA Clinic was expanded and renovated in February 2020.

VA OUTPATIENT CLINICS (cont.)

Primary Care
Mental Health - Psychiatry and Psychology
Social Work
Clinical Pharmacy
Optometry Podiatry
Lab
Nutrition
Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST)
Be Active and Move (BAM)
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Groups
Mental Health Injections
Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)
Housing and Urban Development/
Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)
Neurology

MARIETTA VA CLINIC



Unique Patients 2,076
Outpatient Encounters 10,458

WILMINGTON VA CLINIC

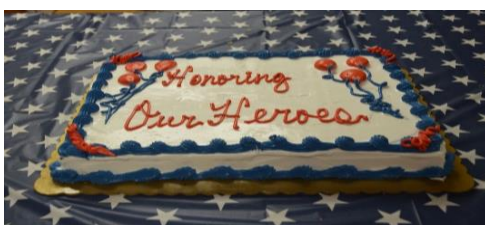
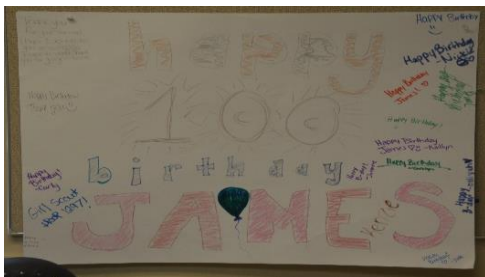


Unique Patients 1,276
Outpatient Encounters 7,530

Primary Care
Mental Health (VA Video Connect)
Social Work
Clinical PharmacyLab
Visually Impaired Services Team (VIST)
MOVE! Weight Management Program
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Groups

FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS

At the Chillicothe VA Medical Center, putting Veterans first is more than a slogan. Staff have been truly resilient in 2021 and have continually put Veterans and their families first in a variety of ways.



At the Chillicothe VA...we put Veterans first!

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STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

If you've ever been to the Chillicothe VA Medical Center you probably know that it's a large campus, 308 acres to be exact. On that acreage you will find the Forrest E. Everhart Memorial Golf Course named after a Medal of Honor recipient from Bainbridge, Ohio; the VA Memorial Stadium built in 1954 by the Blue Star Mothers for Veterans to enjoy America's favorite pastime and now home to the Chillicothe Paints, a collegiate wood bat baseball team; and 72 buildings that serve Veterans in Southeastern Ohio, some of which were built almost 100 years ago. But what you might not know is that the Chillicothe VA has its own Fire Department, one of only 20 VA Fire Departments across the nation. Because of the distance from the medical center to the Chillicothe city limits, the VA is mandated to have an on-site Fire Department to ensure the safety of its Veterans. Out of 19 crew members, 16 are Veterans themselves.



The VA Fire Department (VAFD) also serves the surrounding community. Due to being a 24-hour operation, the crew is often the first to respond to accidents and fires within Ross County. They serve alongside the volunteer and city departments to protect life and property. Suffice it to say, the VA Fire Department serves a crucial role not only at the VA but also in our community.

On August 24, a request for assistance came from the Dayton VA Medical Center regarding a terminally ill Veteran hospitalized at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania that needed transported to his home in Centerville, Ohio. Within 45 minutes of the request, the VAFD received approval, confirmed the patient care needs, and had an ambulance on the road including VAFD crew members DJ Richards, Mike Menendez, and Nathan Hyman.

The trip to Philadelphia is approximately an 8-hour drive from Chillicothe during which the VAFD crew were in regular communication with the Veterans doctors and nurses regarding his condition. The Veteran's wish was to return home to pass away in his own home surrounded by his loved ones. Within an hour of their arrival, the VAFD crew had loaded the patient and his wife in the ambulance for a final journey home.

The Veteran was frail and VAFD crew were unsure if he would even survive the long trip home. They worked in shifts driving, providing care to the Veteran, tending to the Veteran's wife, and resting when they could. Before falling asleep, the Veteran reached out and grabbed the hand of Firefighter Menendez and said, "thank you" then held his hand for over an hour in his sleep.

"When we got the Veteran home his wife said, 'honey we are finally home.' When he heard his wife's words, he expressed the biggest genuine smile I have seen in a long time. After setting up his bed and transferring the Veteran to his own bed, we all thanked him for the honor of bringing him home. Even though he was extremely too weak and frail he tried to salute our crew as we left." said Firefighter Menendez.



The hero arrived home safely on August 25 and passed away peacefully at his home on August 27.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

(cont.)

All Employee Survey

The Chillicothe VA Medical Center received its annual All Employee Survey (AES) scores and was pleased to see improvements in several areas. The medical center is part of the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 10, which includes facilities in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. The Chillicothe VA ranked 1st in the VISN for AES data sharing and data use, 2nd in the VISN for Employee Engagement and tied for 3rd in the VISN for Best Places to Work.

The All-Employee Survey is an anonymous annual survey in which all employees are invited to participate across the entire VA system. Medical Center Director, Dr. Kathy Berger, expressed the importance of hearing the voices of the employees and how the facility uses their feedback to drive change. For example, the previous year's survey indicated that communication was the number one area of concern. Over the past year, facility leadership implemented several initiatives to improve communication across the organization. The facility also stood up a newly invigorated Employee Engagement Committee to enhance the employee experience at the Chillicothe VA. The Director also emphasized that employees are a very valuable asset and maintaining an engaged workforce is important for the medical center in order to care for our Veterans.

"It's rewarding to see that during the past year, with all we had going on with the pandemic, that our employees provided such positive survey feedback," said Dr. Berger. "Of course, we still have a lot of work to do, and we have already started working on the priority areas identified on this year's survey."

VA Employee Recipient of the Rita Gillick 2021 Mental Health Advocate of the Year Award



Tisha Hardin, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist at the Chillicothe VA Medical Center, is the recipient of the Rita Gillick 2021 Mental Health Advocate of the Year Award.

The Rita Gillick Mental Health Advocacy Award was established in 1986 in honor and memory of Rita Gillick, an early advocate for those with mental illnesses. Rita was hospitalized for over 25 years of her life and upon discharge became a founding member of The Gathering Place. She was known statewide as an advocate for client's rights and consumer directed services and served on the Athens-Hocking-Vinton Community Mental Health Board for six years. The award is presented annually to a person who demonstrates the overwhelming willpower of Rita Gillick to never stop in their advocacy efforts for those with mental illnesses.

Ms. Hardin was nominated and selected by the Athens-Hocking-Vinton Alcohol, Drug, Addiction and Mental Health Services Board for her dedication and commitment to serving individuals experiencing mental illness and justice-involved Veterans through the VA's Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) program.



2021 Leadership Development Institute (LDI) Graduates: Lorissa Earl and Paris Jones

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FACILITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Chillicothe VA started the COVID-19 vaccination process on December 23, 2020 and completed 17,956 vaccinations. Chillicothe has the 2nd highest percentage of Veteran vaccinations for VISN 10 at 50%.
- The Chillicothe VAMC was recently selected as the first site in State of Ohio to have an Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations (ATLAS) site. The Chillicothe ATLAS site will be located within the Wellston Ohio American Legion. This accomplishment will provide a safe and secure site, giving Veterans a convenient option for telehealth withing their community.
- Community Care consults pending greater than two days decreased from 132 in December 2020 to 35 in March 2021. No activity greater than 30 days decreased from 126 in December 2020 to five in March 2021.
- A Chillicothe VA Clinical Pharmacy Specialist (CPS) was published in Savvy Psychopharmacology in February 2021. The CPS co-wrote an article on "Management of major depressive disorder with psychotic features."
- The Chillicothe VA's Site Director for geriatrics residents and Columbus VA's Co-Director for the Joint Optometry Residency Program were selected for the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) and Office of Rural Health (ORH) Rural Interprofessional Faculty Development Initiative Cohort 2.
- Academic Affairs received a third Veterans Access Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACAA) Infrastructure Education grant for FY21-22 from the Central Office of Academic Affiliations to support graduate medical education residency programs at the Chillicothe VA.
- The Chillicothe VA Pharmacy and Psychology Residency Programs and Adena Health System Psychiatry Residency Program continue to attract top candidates for their residency programs.
- Community Living Center (CLC) Veterans were 95% fully vaccinated within the first month of the vaccine's availability. New admissions to the CLCs are vaccinated within 24 hours of arriving on the unit on average.

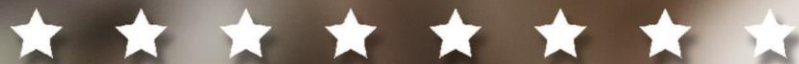


We are here for you.

CHILLICOTHE VA MEDICAL CENTER

ENROLL TODAY

YOU PUT US FIRST, LET US PUT YOU FIRST



ATHENS | CAMBRIDGE | PORTSMOUTH | LANCASTER | MARIETTA | WILMINGTON

**HAVE QUESTIONS?
PLEASE CALL**

740.772.7170

chillicothe.va.gov/enrollment.asp

Our mission is a simple one.

*To honor our Veterans' service and
sacrifices by providing exceptional care.*



SCAN TO ENROLL

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